

HOUSE BILL 2864
By DeBerry L

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 3, relative to families.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 3, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated part:

(a) Within each grand division, the department of human services shall seek competitive bids and shall annually contract with at least one (1) nonprofit entity to serve as the regional institute for responsible fatherhood and family revitalization. Each nonprofit entity contracting to serve as the regional institute for responsible fatherhood and family revitalization shall use contract funds to provide comprehensive outreach and home-based programs to accomplish all of the following:

- (1) Support fathers in developing the skills and attitude necessary to contribute financially to the upbringing of their children;
- (2) Encourage fathers to marry the mothers of their children;
- (3) Reduce the incidence of nonmarital births;
- (4) Reduce the incidence of infant mortality;
- (5) Increase opportunities for fathers to spend loving and nurturing time with their children; and
- (6) Increase the number of fathers who establish paternity.

(b) Implementation of the provisions of this act shall be subject to the availability of funding provided to the department for such purpose within the state's annual

appropriations act. The provisions of this act shall not be construed to constitute an obligation or entitlement or an appropriation of public funds.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1996, the public welfare requiring it.

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